



Town of Garner **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Garner Honored as a 2014 Playful City USA

Garner has been honored as a 2014 Playful City USA by KaBOOM!, a national non-profit dedicated to saving play for America's children.

The KaBOOM! Playful City USA program, sponsored by the Humana Foundation, honors cities, towns and communities across America that are taking bold steps to ensure that all children, especially the 16 million American children living in poverty, have easy access to balanced and active play in their communities.

This year, 212 cities and towns across the United States were Playful City USA honorees. These communities are leaders in playability—the extent to which a city makes it easy for children to get balanced and active play—and are making play part of the solution for countless urban challenges.

“We are proud of our programs, facilities and special events, as well as the level of dedication each staff person—including those in Public Works and the Police Department—exhibits while working to successfully maintain the aesthetics and safety of our parks,” Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Director Sonya Shaw said. “We are honored to serve our citizens and will continue striving to give our very best service to patrons and visitors as we ‘Discover, Play and Celebrate.’”

The mission of the Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is to improve the quality of life in Garner by offering a diverse system of parks, facilities, programs and cultural resources. The Town's parks, recreation facilities and the Garner Performing Arts Center offer great activities—including fitness classes, athletics, camps, cultural arts, special events and more—for citizens ages 2 to 55 and over.

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For more information on KaBOOM! and the Playful Cities USA program, please visit kaboom.org. The Town of Garner and KaBOOM! encourage citizens to participate in the national dialogue on playability on Twitter ([@TownofGarner](https://twitter.com/TownofGarner), [@GarnerPRCR](https://twitter.com/GarnerPRCR), [@kaboom](https://twitter.com/kaboom)) using the hashtags **#playability** and **#playmatters**.

For more information on the Town of Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, please visit garnernc.gov, or call the department's main line at (919) 773-4442.

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